

	<p>IDEM Permit Guide: Permitting Industrial Wastewater Discharges from Mines and Quarries</p> <p>www.IN.gov/idem/guides/permit/water/minesquarries.html</p>
---	--

Who May Need a Permit

Anyone planning a point source discharge of wastewater or runoff from a coal mine, coal processing facility, or coal mine reclamation area, or from a sand, gravel, dimensional stone, or crushed stone quarry must first secure a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems (NPDES) permit. IDEM implements a NPDES general, permit-by-rule, permit program for these types of discharges.

Rule 7 applies to wastewater discharges from surface and underground coal mines, processing facilities, and reclamation areas. Rule 12 applies to wastewater discharges from sand, gravel, dimension stone, and crushed stone operations using channel machines, broaching, jet piercing, scrubber water for air pollution control, dust suppression spray water, wash water from screening operations, and non-contact cooling water from various crushers, drills, saws, dryers, pumps, and other related equipment.

Discharges from any other types of mining activity require an NPDES individual storm water run-off permit (application form 2F). As the public comment period for general discharge permits already was held when the rules were established, no further comment period is required for this type of permit.

Some of the things a discharger must do to comply with Rule 7 or 12 include (but are not limited to):

- Submit to IDEM a Notice of Intent (NOI), up to, if possible, 180 days before the discharge is to commence,
- Publish a public notice of the intent to comply with the rule in a local newspaper of general circulation, and send a copy of that notice to IDEM along with the NOI,
- Provide a list of affected parties,
- Name the receiving stream,
- Include a \$50 application fee with the NOI, and
- Apply to renew the permit every five years, 90 days prior to the termination of permit coverage.

What to Expect

Upon receipt of the NOI, IDEM will review it for applicability, which takes an average of 50 days, but can take up to 150 days. If the applicant is eligible to operate under the specific general permit sought, the facility will be included on a list of approved dischargers published on the 15th of each month. The permit becomes effective 18 days after the issuance of an approval letter and permit identification number. Coverage under a general permit must be secured prior to any discharge, and the permits are not transferable.

Those holding a Rule 7 permit for coal-related discharges must pay an annual fee of \$500 per mining facility. The construction of sedimentation basins is regulated by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (InDNR), and the rules governing that construction, Title 310, Article 12 of the Indiana Administrative Code, is available on the Internet at <http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/T03100/A00120.wpd> **(WP File)**. To learn about all the other coal mining permits required by InDNR, contact Permit Coordinator David Phillips at 1-800/772-6463.

On the other hand, those holding a Rule 12 permit for quarry-related discharges must pay an annual fee based on the number of discharge outfalls: \$750 for 1 outfall, and \$1,500 for 2, \$2,000 for 3, or \$2,500 for 4 outfalls.

For Additional Information

In addition, those coal mines or stone quarries discharging into stream listed as outstanding state resource or exceptional use waters are not eligible for a Rule 7 or Rule 12 permit. The applicant must instead apply for an individual National Pollution Discharge Elimination Systems Permit. To obtain a list of those streams, to secure additional information regarding coal or quarry related discharges, or to obtain a Notice of Intent form please call Sheri Owens at 317/232-8403.

Disclaimer

This permit guide is intended to provide background information which should be useful in planning for a particular project that may require an environmental permit. It does not substitute for consultation with the appropriate regulatory agency and/or the appropriate rules or statute.